

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

THE COTTON CROP AND MARKET.

We find the following statements in the Circular, addressed to the Cotton Planters, dated July 20, of a very intelligent merchant of Mobile, who appears to have paid very particular and close attention to the subject. He states that the present depressed price of cotton does not yield a profit of two per cent. upon the capital employed in its production.

With reference to the prospect of the growing crop, consumption, demand, &c. the writer submits the following facts:

1st. The great fall in the broad crop of this and the Atlantic States, and the comparative value of flour to cotton, caused a much larger quantity of land to be put down in grain than has been customary.

2d. I have observed that the migration from this and the Atlantic States to Texas and the West, through this city, has been immense; and I am credibly informed that the numbers who have passed on the upper routes have been still greater.

3d. I have ascertained that the decrease of cotton planted where sugar is now the crop in Louisiana is fully 100,000 bales this year, and sugar will still go on to take the place of cotton.

4th. In addition to these startling facts I am sorry to add that, from every part of the cotton region, we have accounts respecting the planting time and prospects of the wood as being as bad if not worse than has ever been experienced by the planter. Bountiful, bad stands, cold and wet springs, overflows, &c., one or each have prevailed more or less every where, and the appearance of the bloom in this State was about the 17th June, about four weeks later than the appearance of blooms in 1842, when the yield was 2,378,400 bales.

To support these four points by argument I scarcely deem necessary, as every man in this country will at once, if he is not acquainted with the fact, admit their rationality. The first all know, the second many have heard of, and those who do not readily account for it have simply to be reminded, that the annexation of Texas to the United States and the falling of their old settlements of lands invited to this excessive tide.

The third was a fact I was informed of by a very able report of the Chamber of Commerce at New Orleans, in reply to interrogatories from Mr. Walker, Secretary of the Treasury, having reference to the change of the tariff.

He then adds:

In the further consideration of this subject it must be borne in mind that the cotton lands of this country are all now opened very nearly; that there are no new Indian lands to get, and that the country has already done its best. Any new lands that may be brought in will not offset the deterioration going on with those which have been for years in constant cultivation. Besides, many other interests are springing up in the cotton region, such as the establishment of cotton and other factories, extending their wheat and other grain crops throughout, &c. Even at this time the weather is very bad for cotton—mineral, cold, &c. Should there be soon a favorable change, it does not appear to me probable, with the present conditions prevailing, the crop will exceed 2,000,000 bales. Should there be no frost till unusually late, the fall very warm and dry, this might be somewhat added to; but, on the other hand, should we not have just such weather as suits, from now out, it will fall below it, and possibly very much.

I may here remark, respecting the crop of Texas, that in 1844 it only amounted to 29,194 bales—this being the number of bales received in Europe; and in 1845 I think it has fallen short of this. For several years to come the demand there for breadstuffs and provisions will prevent their giving attention to cotton; and that portion of an article which should be produced to be admirably adapted to sugar, and, as that article is rapidly increasing in consumption, and will continue to be in proportion to its yield and eagerness of culture a much more profitable crop than cotton, we have no cause to fear competition from there of any moment. As an evidence in favor of sugar, I will mention that a common plantation of this article from 100 to 150 acres will produce 100 to 150 tons of sugar, and will require less than 100 to 150 acres of cotton to produce the same quantity of sugar.

In relation to the supply of cotton from other countries, I may quote from the Circular of an experienced cotton-house in Liverpool, of December 31 last, this: "From both Brazil and Egypt we look for a large supply, and no increase at all exists in the price of cotton. Up to last June instant the falling off of imports from these countries was about fifteen per cent. in Liverpool, and there has been a gradual falling off of imports and a greater one in consumption of cotton from the Indies, &c. the last four years, indicating, I think, that the Europeans are giving up the idea of an article which is so much inferior to their own, and that they are turning to the strength and durability of the American manufacture."

The consumption of G. Britain, in 1845, was 2,356,000 bales. Do United States..... 405,000 do

2,761,000

With regard to the future prospects of the consumption of cotton, I need not say that within a short period all serious difficulties have been removed, and upon a permanently prosperous basis. The great difficulty that has always been apprehended respecting Oregon has been amicably disposed of. The duty on breadstuffs into Great Britain, than which no one measure could effect more happy results, is now reported. The railway mania has been arrested, the prospect of the harvest everywhere is unusually fine. Here is a combination of causes favorable to the cotton interest. We see, too, the English Parliament are about to do themselves and Brazil justice in the abolition of the duty on slave-grown sugar; and, too, it is intimated that the more prompt trade with China, they contemplate the abolition of the duty on tea. They are both measures that would greatly promote the trade of England, and bear favorably upon your supply and their demand for your cotton. All that is done to promote the growth of sugar and coffee in Brazil, and open to them a good market, will make that country better customers for cotton manufactures, and diminish their culture to that extent of the raw material, as sugar, as I have before remarked, will always be made before cotton.

With these all in view I think it will be ascertained that the consumption of Europe this year will be 10 per cent. on what it was last year..... 2,840,000

And this country, say..... 500,000

3,340,000

The supply for 1846 may be thus stated—

Stock on hand 1st September, 1845..... 94,000

Crop of the United States and Texas 2,050,000

Stock in Europe 1st Jan., 1846..... 1,219,000

Crop of Egypt, Brazil, East and West Indies, &c. 1845, exclusive of crop of Texas..... 420,000

3,783,000

Stock last January, 1847, in the world..... 683,000

Leaving a stock, all told, 1st January, in the world, of 683,000 bales, and this amount cannot be increased heavily by exports from this country after 1st September and previous to 1st January, from the growing crop, as it will be a month before it is ready for export, and both English and French merchants may be a little backward in giving the prices they will have to pay. Let us look now to the supply of 1847—

Stock on hand every where 1st January..... 683,000

Average crop of the United States..... 2,000,000

Egypt, Brazil, India, &c..... 400,000

3,083,000

So, without calculating the increase of the consumption of next to this year, with the same consumption, no stock would be on hand on the 1st January, 1848. Any doubts as to the extent of the consumption of this year I conceive more than counterbalanced by the possibility of our crop falling below the figures I use.

I have thought together, in my own plain way, the condition and prospects of this valuable staple, and I must now submit to those who make it what, under such a state of circumstances, they are willing to do for it. It has been very plainly told us that we must accept whatever the English choose to give; but the immensely increasing consumption on the continent of Europe as well as in this country gives excellent fair customers; and when we see that consumption has not ahead of production, I am yet to learn that capitalists will not step in and buy at more than we have been getting, and reselling their own prices. The suggestions I present furnish no other conclusion.

The business in cotton the past season has not been gratifying. Although prices were a shade higher than last year's sales were made with reluctance, and seldom at prices proportionate to the falling off of the crop, and in neither has not this year have planters obtained remunerative prices. I feel great pleasure in contemplating them on the changed prospect, which can, however, be best maintained by adhering to their determination of dividing their crops and their interests. We now have for sale iron, castings, coal, cotton

yarn and manufactures, flour, wheat, oats, corn, turpentine, tobacco, staves, and lumber, all of which are paying well—raised and manufactured in this State.

Crop, consumption, and stock of Cotton of the United States last four years, inclusive of stocks and receipts of 1846, up to 17th July.

	1841-2	1842-3	1843-4	1844-5	1845-6
Crop	1,684,311	2,378,980	2,030,409	2,254,490	2,050,000
Consumption	1,684,311	2,378,980	2,030,409	2,254,490	2,050,000
Stocks, 1st Sept.	131,407	191,850	145,744	94,100	94,100
Do at date last received	131,407	191,850	145,744	94,100	94,100
Do at date last received	131,407	191,850	145,744	94,100	94,100
Received at ports to date	1,626,711	2,357,000	1,989,557	2,384,728	2,050,000
Do subsequently	27,300	21,158	31,847	9,772	9,772

* This includes 10,581 bales burnt in N. York and Southern ports.

The writer of this circular says, in a private communication, "As it is important those who deal or have dealt in cotton should be correctly and fully informed as to the prospect of supply from this country, I have taken a good deal of pains to gather what I here present. Many have discontinued their operations in the article from an impression that the capacity of this country for producing cotton reached a most indefinite point; hence there was no safety in their buying to make any thing on it. My desire is to encourage, by laying before them the facts, which all can attest, their entering the market again."

We have thus presented to our readers, in a condensed shape as possible, the valuable information contained in the circular of our intelligent correspondent, and have no doubt of its importance being properly appreciated.

NOTES ON NEW BOOKS.

The late pressure upon our columns of matter, which, as more strictly public, more political—or, at least, passing for politics, now-a-days—and needing to be given, if at all, to-day, because to-morrow nobody will care for it, has compelled us to neglect much of the literary material that we receive from publishers; and, at this season, the latter accumulates upon our hands in spite of us. Now, as books, in the present day, like speeches or news, are subject to be produced and forgotten with an equal speed—if good, through the public fault, and if bad, through their own—we consider ourselves bound to bring about, if we can, some compromise between these adverse interests fighting for our space. To many, on either side—volumes and statesmen—it is eternal oblivion not to be mentioned on the very day that hears or sees them. Why, then, should the spoken have all the while a preference over the merely written—the spoken which, at any event, has a sort of casual but regular advantage and survives twice as long for it lives one day in the utterance, and a second when it is uttered; whereas the immortality of a book in our sheets is but half as perdurable. We must, then, contrive some more even distribution of our newspaper perpetuity; and since, if we write large notices of books, there is room to print but few of them, we will celebrate them more briefly; for surely their authors or printers will like that better than to have them pass away forever, without the slightest commemoration.

Upon some mighty occasion, when Cambaceres was about to give one of those unparalleled dinners which made, and will long make an era in French history, his *maitre d'hôtel*—perhaps the great Carême himself—presented, in his estimate of provision to be made, forty hams. "Forty hams!" cried the prince: "C'est impossible, my friend: you cannot want forty hams for a dinner of twenty guests."

"Monseigneur," replied the artist, "I would have you know that our science can with ease reduce those forty hams to a dainty which will be but a taste for a single guest." "Something like this, then, shall we have, for a while, to do in our criticism, beginning as follows.

"Achievements of the Knights of Malta. By ALEX. SUTHERLAND, Esq. Carey & Hart, Philadelphia, 1846." 2 vols., square 12mo.; (Nos. 2 and 3 C. & H.'s Library for the People, price 50 cents each.)

Monks, knights, and a corporation, the order of Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, (their original name) afterwards of Rhodes, and finally of Malta, possessed a triple claim to the antipathy of this age, too pious to have saints, too gallant to endure cavaliers, and too liberal to suffer incorporation; being, as to the last, so remarkably well-informed as not to know that modern popular freedom owes its existence, in a very great degree, to the burghs, the free corporations of the middle ages.

However, the radicalism that now calls itself democracy never was and never will be very particular about facts, and nourishes a no doubt very laudable contempt for all history, which will, however, retaliate. Yet it must be confessed that this same corporation of friar-soldiers did great and brave things in their time, and stood for some centuries, first the sword and then the shield of Christendom against the infidel.

Beginning from the first crusade, their history is that of the Holy Wars, as long as Europe was, in those expeditions, the assailant of the Saracenic power; and, when the contest became on her part a defensive one, this military order remained, until long after the memorable siege of Rhodes, the main bulwark of the west against the Turkish arms.

In our own language there is scarcely any thing that can be called a history of the Crusades; for Charles Mill's book on that subject is a very meagre and dull one, Mr. Stebbing's no better, although both are referred to with praise by our author. Michael's *Histoire des Croisades*, (6 vols. 8vo.) and its sequel, his *Bibliothèque des Croisades*, (4 vols. 8vo.), are the only single work that supplies a complete account of them. As to the Knights of St. John, Vertot's history of the order is well-known, and has, with that contained in Boisselin's "Ancient and Modern Malta," (3 vols. 4to., London, 1804,) furnished the chief material for the book before us, which, however, is more comprehensive than, from its date, (1726,) the first could be, or the second from its plan, which confines itself to the last era of the knights—their residence in Malta.

Louis de Boisselin was himself a French companion of the order, who, after what may be called its subversion in 1798, by Napoleon's seizure of their island, retired to England and acquired its language with such precision as to be able to write in it with much elegance his annals. As relating to a far less splendid time, however, they are much less interesting than Vertot's.

"A Discourse on the Baconian Philosophy by SAMUEL TYLER, of the Maryland Bar." Second edition, enlarged. Frederick city, Maryland, 1846. 12mo. 426 pp.

We are indebted to the esteemed author for a copy of this extension of his view of the Inductive Philosophy, formerly mentioned by us with surprise and pleasure, at finding such investigations pursued with such success, amidst the labors of one whom we must call a country barrister, in despite of the titular claim of Frederick to be a city. Our former notice of the work, however, and our present necessities of space permit us only to say that the additions to the volume increase its value and interest. We commend it anew to the attention of all students of logic and philosophy.

"*Rambles in the Mammoth Cave, during the year 1844, by a Visitor.*" Louisville, Kentucky, 12mo. pp. 101.

We receive from Mr. Franck-Taylor this guide-book to that part of the nether world which lies beneath Kentucky. We must confess that the description begins not a little at that Homer and Virgil, Dante and Milton, have told of Tartarus.

The place, though not so classical as old, and as wanting both sulphurous lakes and Elysian fields, neither so dire nor delightful as we dreamed,

yet wants not certain of its ancient landmarks, and especially its rivers, though one or two less than given in Milton's diemal geography—the

"Four infernal rivers, that discharge Into the burning lake their hateful streams; Abhorred Styx, the flood of deadly hate; Sad Acheron of sorrow, black and deep; Cocytus, named of lamentation loud; Heard on the rueful stream; Phlegethon, Whose waves of torrent fire inflame with rage. Far off from them, a slow and silent stream, Lethe, the river of oblivion, rolls Her watery labyrinth."

Within some of these rivers dwell those anomalous fishes that, finding eyes of no use there except to be poked in and hurt, have dispensed with them. Let others doubt the fact as much as they will, we cannot; for, having seen them, we are compelled to believe either that we or the aforesaid fish are eyesless.

The country, as we have intimated, has changed many of its former features, and lost its antique inhabitants. Still, things must look not a little ghostly by there. The old proprietors, Plato and dame Proserpine, have set up a tavern, and feed their guests, instead of frying them. Several sorts of that grim grumdog, Charon, ply at his former trade of ferryman, and, as was his wont, drive back all who bring not their fees; and instead of Minos, Aeacus, and Rhadamanthus, a Kentucky justice of the peace and his catchpole deal out the law; though perhaps much after the old sort, of punishing first and hearing afterwards. Achilles has sunk into a bully, Ulysses deals at faro, Orpheus plays the banjo, and Eurydice goes around with the hat for contributions.

As to the climate, it seems about as bright as that of fifty-four forty is for at least half the year; and whereas, in that latter blessed region, you are parched for six months, and then flooded for as many more, this subterranean Oregon knows an excess of neither rain nor sunshine. Their politics are not quite as subterranean as those of a part of New York. And as, when they acquire a little more population, they will have abundant territory to form a new State, we hope shortly to see them admitted into the Union, under the name of Cimberia. The downward direction in which they lie should make no difference; for we are now going that way for States. Moreover, as they owe no public debt, they can saddle us with no burden of that sort; and last, but not least, as our good President so discreetly said of Texas, it will be "a bloodless acquisition."

"Specimens of the British Critics, by Christopher North, (JOHN WILSON.) Philadelphia. Carey & Hart. 1846. 12mo. pp. 344.

This sound and spirited body of criticism chiefly consists of a skilful estimate and comparison of our two great poets of the second order, Dryden and Pope, both of whom are elaborately examined, and exalted as they deserve; but not with that indiscriminate encomium now in use, by the aid of which every thing grows transcendent alike, and the inanimation of Wordsworth breathes life and beauty, or the mystic fogs of Shelley become not only divine but intelligible, or Cowper turns otherwise than very good prose, or Crabbe seems poetic by dint of being so matter-of-fact!

Here we have displayed the force and the finish of that older strain of composition, when labor and vigor were not yet lost in a wordy facility; when verse went not drizzling on after the far-fetched and the ideal, but moved with mighty gait, graceful and strong, to natural thoughts and images, that stirred the heart, instead of tickling or puzzling the ingenious brain. The age that can devour *Rokeby*, but not the *Iliad*, finds the *Excursion* lively, but yawns over the *Æneid*—and understands Shelly or Miss Barrett, while it finds Pope and Dryden or even Milton knotty and hard of study—may well write and speak, as it does, most woefully. It is not time to grow uninterested of its own fruitless abundance, its sterile fertility, its ease of producing what costs no greater effort to write than to read a second time? Behold how they perish in whom it rejoiced as wonders of its own! Where is Goethe and the mighty truths of the "Political Justice"? Why, they who hold forth to Dorrites and Subterranean preach as well! Where is the mighty VOLNEY? A ruin himself! Where is the "Sorrows of Werter," or the chaste "Heloise"? If, then, the idols, prose and poetic, for which it left the fane of older authorship, have tumbled down of themselves, might it not learn that it would be better at once to turn, for its models of literature, to that older time, which alone defies, by its productions, the mutabilities of taste and fashion? And, above all, while men like WILSON and BYRON can read, adore, and confess the prodigious superiority of Dryden and Pope, had it not better begin to suspect that if it cannot relish them, it had better make it a business to read them out it does?

TEMPERANCE LEGISLATION.—The Legislature of MAINE have enacted a law forbidding the sale of intoxicating liquor at wholesale or retail, except for medicinal and mechanical purposes. Penalty for the first offence \$1 to \$20, second offence \$5 to \$20, with a bond of \$50 to take the nuisance for six months, and forfeiting all money received for liquors thus sold.

CAPITAL IN THE COPPER BUSINESS.—The number of companies engaged in the copper business in actual operations is about 90, and the nominal capital is over \$15,000,000. Boston seems to have entered the most extensively into the business.

PRECIOUS STONES.—Agate is found in abundance in the copper and silver region of Lake Superior. We have seen beautiful specimens in the possession of Dr. Hawks, of this city, and other gentlemen.—*Rochester American.*

FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA.—We learn that a considerable number of farms in this county have been sold within a short time. Several tracts were sold at good prices on the first day of the Court. Besides others the farm of the late Henry Hodges was sold, under a decree of the Court, to Mr. A. H. (two of Pennsylvania, at seventeen dollars per acre.

About twenty-seven thousand acres in this county are now held by Northern settlers.—*Fairfax News.*

THE OFFENDED.

Every one is ready to admit the duty of not giving offence to others. It is one of the universally acknowledged laws of the society in which we are units, to live peaceably with all around us, and to avoid any thing which may cause estrangement, and produce angry and bitter feeling; and he who would violate this law, and needlessly irritate and provoke, proves himself unworthy of the blessings which civilization and society were intended to secure. If every one acted in an offensive manner, the component parts must be broken up, and man must again retrograde into solitariness and barbarism: it is only by mutual respect and good will that society can cohere and exist. "It is the glory of a man," says the sacred proverb, "to pass over a transgression;" and it is the truest wisdom, and the highest philosophy sometimes to shut our eyes to insult, even when there may be some reason to fear it was not entirely unprovoked. At all events, we shall meet in the world with quite enough of offences, unless we are more than ordinarily fortunate, without seeking out imaginary insults, and wasting our strength and destroying our peace by fighting with the wind. Our severest scrutiny is best turned to ourselves, that we may not be offenders, and our most favorable judgment formed respecting the conduct and actions of others, that we may not be offended. While we may be sure that, in the crowded path of life, we ourselves do not intend to run wilfully against others, though we may sometimes stumble against them, so we must hope and believe that they in turn have no intention of offending us, though they may sometimes accidentally jostle us in their turn. The duty of endurance has undoubtedly its proper limits, but it is a wise determination not only not to offend, but also not to be easily offended. Every one desires that others should interpret his actions kindly; and, where any may be of doubtful import, to hope the best; and such is the way in which their actions should be regarded by us. Were the duty of not taking offence more thought of and better understood, the peace of individuals, families, of communities, of nations, would rise, and a firmer foundation of something would be added to the general amount of human harmony and happiness.

(SELECTED.)

MISCELLANY FROM FOREIGN PAPERS.

The proprietor of the house famous in the love-legend of Abbeilard and Heloise as their dwelling, on the quai Napoleon, had, it appears, lately determined on its demolition; and the work had even proceeded down to the first story (by which the French usually mean what we call the second) when it was suspended, in consequence of some proposals (it is said) made by a person intent on preserving this historic habitation. But whether this attachment for the memory of the two not very respectable lovers comes of somebody that is romance struck, or of some one looking to speculate on the softness of head and heart of others, we do not learn.

An Italian journal (the *Observatore Triestino*) relates as having lately occurred the following benevolent appropriation:

"Inspired by the having read the 'Wandering Jew,' an inhabitant of Hermanstadt had placed in the *Savings-bank* a sum of 100 florins, of which he has disposed by bequest as follows: When the accumulated interest and principal shall have produced twelve millions of florins, (which will happen in three hundred years,) one million shall be employed in building a church for the service of the Reformed Religion; a second, for founding a normal school, for the instruction of teachers and village notaries; a third, for the erection of a hospital; two more, for a model-farm and a school of agriculture; one more, for constructing a railroad to the neighboring stone-quarries, and for an addition to the wages of the working-men of the town; one, for the embellishment of Hermanstadt; two for such works of charity as the spirit of that time may think worthiest; and lastly, one million to be enjoyed by such persons as can establish their descent from the founder."

This last arrangement will certainly serve to secure some not very democratic attention to genealogy in Hermanstadt: in which provision, and as little in any of the others, are we able to trace any thing that looks like an inspiration produced by the peculiar influence of master Eugene Sue's book! The only Christianity (if that is such) which we can detect in this is a violent hatred of Catholicism: for that appears to be the meaning of the rage against the Jesuits, which he would kindle up, to the last degree of persecution. A benevolent gentleman, truly, and an admirable propagator of humane ideas, by means of volumes of philanthropic ravings, embodied in narratives of every sort of horrid depravity!

The German newspapers speak of a curious invention lately made in that country. It is a sort of bed, admirably suited to form the sleeping furniture of all the lodging-rooms in Thompson's "Castle of Indolence." Upon it the most tired man possible—even though he were worn out with listening to the fourteen columns in one-day's "Union" about that for which it cares so little, Congressional printing—has only to lay himself in, order at once to be lapped in a perfect elysium of juggling sounds. This bed, invented by a Bohemian workman, is so constructed that, by means of a concealed mechanism, the mere pressure of the body produces a delicious strain of Auber's music, lasting long enough to call down a gentle slumber upon eyes the least somnolent. At the head of the couch is a time-piece, of which one has only to set the hands at the hour one likes, and precisely at that time the bed strikes up a march by Spontini, with an accompaniment of drums and cymbals, capable of waking Epimenides himself, or that eternal slumberer in wax-work exhibitions, the "sleeping beauty." This marvellous mattress, then, will offer equal advantages to those who can't sleep and those who can't wake.

The *Courrier de la Côte d'Or* relates as authentic the following strange wager and crime, which we translate for the amusement of our readers:

"Gouard and Dêtreux, men of mature age and by taste as well as profession patons of the cellar, are united in a very tender friendship, not only by this conformity of inclinations, but by another: both are fond of certain parallelisms of phraseology, marked with spots—some red, some black."

"On Easter Monday two friends seated themselves at table in an ordinary of the Inn at Vaulx, where that solemn holiday had collected a goodly company of the faithful. 'I'll bet my ears against yours,' cried Dêtreux."

"Thank you," replies Gouard; 'I'd rather play for something to drink than what's even hardly eatable.' 'Dah! I insist the other; 'why not a little soup? But come! For one ear at a time, then; the winner to take his choice.'"

"No sooner said than done. All are in the most obliging mood around; cards are offered; they sit down to a rubbert *carte*, and Gouard is soon the victor."

"Whether, however, from a singing in the ears which he had just saved, or through that grandeur of soul which so well becomes a conqueror, he hesitated to make use of his triumph. But the lofty spirit of Dêtreux declined to profit by such compunction. Drawing, then, from his pocket a long clasp-knife, he whetted it, with a Roman firmness; and, handing it to Gouard, said, 'You have won it; you shall take it! and, laying his head on the table, he submitted to the mutilation as coolly as did that Persian general, Zopyrus, who cut off his own ears in order to enable his king to take Babylon."

"There are people, however, in whom the sight of the most heroic actions moves no sympathy. Such there must have been among the spectators; for a complaint was lodged, and the mighty Gouard prosecuted for voluntary wounding and maiming."

"At the hearing of the case the heroic Gouard appeared, like *Æneas*, high above the attentive crowd; while Dêtreux gazed on him like Dido, except that the Carthaginian queen had not, perhaps, one of her ears adjusted in its place by sticking plaster and the very clumsy stitching of that dearest of all tailors, a surgeon."

"The presiding magistrate proceeds to ask our fortunate winner of ears how he came to be able to get his own consent to the divesting of his friend's knowledge-box of one of its handles?"

"My Judge," replies Gouard, 'I will explain it all to your satisfaction. Every year, at the same season, Dêtreux and I are accustomed to play for some stake more than common. Last year it was our heads, and I lost mine. Well, Dêtreux, though the best fellow in the world, is scrupulous about exacting as well as paying debts of honor; so he was about to take off my head with that long knife, if I had not luckily got out of his way by hiding under a bed. This year 'twas I that won, as your judgeship has heard; and I thought I might surely take one ear, as I knew that he, in my place, had proposed to take two, along with the head attached to them.'"

"The king's prosecutor here remarked to one of the witnesses: 'that he might surely have interfered to prevent a fact so brutal.' The latter humbly pleaded that 'to interpose between such worthless would have been only transferring the danger from their ears to his own.'"

"Your ears, indeed!" cried Gouard. 'Why, they are of no use to you, any how; for you're as deaf as a post.' 'No matter,' replies the other; 'they used to be of service to me; and I take care of them out of gratitude.'"

"The court (possibly with some view to the fact that the ears of folks like Gouard and Dêtreux are properly only a public trust, until justice calls for them) condemned the former to eight days' imprisonment. Dêtreux, mean time, had listened attentively—though it can scarcely be said *arrectis auribus*. As for Gouard, the court may be considered as having sent him off 'with a flea in his ear.'"

We learn from Berlin that Mr. WHEATON, the late American Minister at that Court, after having delivered his letter of recall to the King, had, with his Lady, the honor of dining with their Majesty. A present of the magnificent edition of the Works of Frederick the Great was offered by his Majesty, at whose expense it is published, to Mr. Wheaton, and accepted by him, for the use of the National Library at Washington. The honorary degree of Doctor of Philosophy has also just been conferred on Mr. Wheaton by the University of Berlin, as a mark of respect for his scientific attainments, and the general esteem he has conciliated during his long residence in Germany.—*London paper.*

The Papal amnesty is an important measure in every sense. As an act of mercy, it is honorable to the character of the Pope; and it is remarkable for the indirect but positive allusion that is made to the necessity of religious as well as po-

litical toleration. In a political sense, it may have a great effect, not merely in the States of the Pope, where it will tend to disarm the enemies of the Government of the hostility that has long been entertained towards it, but even in all the Italian States of Austria, and those of the temporal Italian sovereigns. It will be difficult, if not impossible, for the other rulers of Italy not to imitate the clemency of the chief of the Catholic Church.—*London Globe.*

Amongst the animals sent as a present to the King of the French by the Sultan of Muscat, and which have arrived at Cairo, are two beautiful mares, which are declared to be direct descendants from the famous and favorite mare of Mahomet, named *Bayad*. Their genealogy, with the certificates of descent, are enclosed in a leaden box, suspended from the neck.

The *Dublin Evening Post* remarks: "One consolation we have. The ports are open. The trade in corn is virtually free. There is no duty on maize. All animals and all animal provisions are untaxed. The people are employed. We verily believe there is a general disposition to suspend animosity. The people of Ireland have gotten Government on their backs, in which they can confide. One of the best landlords of Ireland is the Lord Lieutenant of the country."

An electrical telegraph is being established on the railway from Vienna to Brunn.

A letter from Hamburg states that the number of workmen employed on the railway from that city to Berlin has been lately increased from 8,000 to 10,000, and that the works are urged on night and day. The line is to be finished by the end of the year. The workmen are principally Silesians, and they earn about a shilling (4s. 6d.) per day, which is enormous, as in their own country, and under ordinary circumstances, the wages do not amount to one sixth of this sum.

Old Earl STANHOPE used to tell an anecdote of his father, who was more home in his appearance than was usual with peers of that day, that on attempting to enter the House of Lords he was stopped by the doorkeeper with the observation, "Honorable man, you have no business here. To which he answered, 'I am an honest man, and I have business here.'"

In 1815 there were 92 acres of docks and basins at Liverpool; the tonnage was